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Dated: 11/17/03

Signature: 

(Lisa J. Michaud)

Docket No.: 022956-0233  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Rickey D. Hart

Application No.: 10/623,212

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR ANCHORING  
AUTOLOGOUS OR ARTIFICIAL TENDON GRAFTS  
IN BONE

Group Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby cite for the record in this application the enclosed documents listed on the attached PTO Form PTO/SB/08A. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references are not submitted herewith insofar as they are all believed to be in the Examiner's file already. The references were previously cited in United States Patent Application No. 08/976,257 filed on November 21, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,616,694, issued September 9, 2003) and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)), and thus no fees

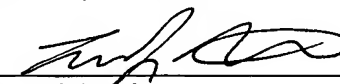
Application No.: 10/632,212

Docket No.: 022956-0233

are believed to be due. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 022956-0233.

Dated: November 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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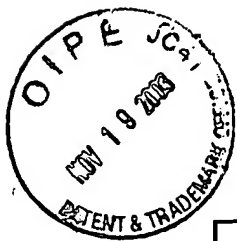
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	10/623,212	
			Filing Date	July 18, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Rickey D. Hart	
			Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	022956-0233

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
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